This year marks the 50th Anniversary of NASA, an excellent opportunity for us to commemorate the many contributions NASA has made. On <u>NASA's 50 th Anniversary website</u> you can see examples of the different ways NASA has spurred innovation, inspiration, and discoveries that will keep the United States at the forefront of aeronautical and space science and technology.

NASA breakthroughs, from the <u>development of cochlear implants</u>, to the use of <u>remote</u> sensing to analyze wildfires

- , to research on the use of plants to improve indoor air quality and clean waste water
- , have spurred new technology that continues to improves our quality of life.

As we further explore space and the intricacies of our own planet, we will look to NASA as a pioneering force that will continue to light our way. I congratulate and commend the entire NASA team on its many achievements and for its unyielding commitment to the prosperity of our nation.